

December 10, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Sutter County's Emergency Services Manager Named President Of California Emergency Services Association**

Sutter County Emergency Services Manager John E. DeBeaux Jr. was recently appointed president of the Board of Directors of the California Emergency Services Association (CESA), an organization of more than 600 emergency service professionals from government, private industry and non-government agencies.

CESA acts as a clearing house for emergency management best practices, and promotes mutual support and cooperation in the public, private and non-profit sectors during emergencies.

Mr. DeBeaux, who was hired as Sutter County Emergency Services Manager in 2004, will serve as president of the CESA board until October of 2009.

Earlier this year, Mr. DeBeaux testified on behalf of CESA in front of the California Legislature, in favor of AB 38, a bill that, effective January 2009, combines the California Office of Homeland Security and the California Office of Emergency Services into one organization, the California Emergency Management Agency.

“Local agencies were required to develop relationships with both agencies for purposes of training, grants, and emergency planning,” Mr. DeBeaux said. “Having these organizations combined will reduce the bureaucratic burden on local agencies.”

The 2007-2008 Sutter County Grand Jury commended Mr. DeBeaux “for his outstanding performance of his duties, passion for his job and commitment of service to the citizens of Sutter County.” Mr. DeBeaux said that his affiliation with CESA has provided various benefits for emergency services in Sutter County.

Community Services Director Larry Bagley and Sutter County Fire Chief Dan Yager are also members of CESA. “The networking that we can do means that when we need them we can call people we already know and we won't have to be exchanging business cards in the middle of an emergency,” Mr. DeBeaux said.

Mr. DeBeaux is involved in a statewide effort to expand and improve on the California Emergency Management Mutual Aid program that allows local jurisdictions to borrow personnel and expertise from other agencies during an emergency.

Mr. DeBeaux, who lives in Live Oak, is a retired U.S. Air Force Master Sergeant. He has worked for Sutter County since 2000.

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